



School-Age Children in CCDBG: 2009 Update

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What we know about school-age children in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) program

CCDBG is the primary source of federal funding for child care subsidies for low-income working families and to improve child care quality.

CCDBG provides child care assistance to children from birth to age 13.¹ In fiscal year 2010, states received \$5 billion in federal CCDBG funds. States are expected to contribute an additional \$2.2 billion to draw down all federal funds. This fact sheet highlights key information about school-age children and CCDBG.²

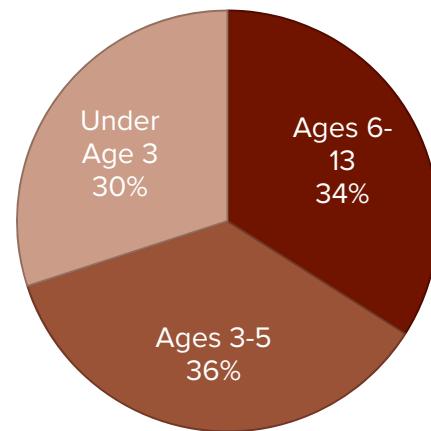
CCDBG allows states a great deal of flexibility, within minimal federal guidelines, in how they design their programs. Among the policies set by states are age eligibility limits. While children are eligible for CCDBG up to age 13, states have the option of extending age eligibility until age 19 if children are mentally or physically incapable of self-care or under court supervision. Nearly all (48) states extend eligibility to children ages 13-19 who are incapable of self-care, and 34 states extend eligibility to children ages 13-19 who are under court supervision.³

Another important policy set by states is payment rates for providers. Payment rates for school-age care vary widely. States may set rates that include multiple categories, including separate payment rates for before and after school care, summer and holidays, and full-day and part-day care.⁴ Payment

rates are generally lower for school-age children than for younger children because adult-child ratios are typically higher. The average payment rate for center-based, school-age care in urban areas was \$426 per month in 2008.⁵

Most states provide child care assistance through vouchers or certificates. States can choose to provide assistance through contracts, which are formal agreements between a state and a provider to serve a set number of children. Contracts can be a way to guarantee that families can successfully find the care they need and to provide a regular, stable source of income for providers.⁶ For school-age providers, contracts can guarantee payments during school vacation days or other times children are absent from care.

Figure 1. Ages of Children Served in CCDBG, 2009



A third of children served in CCDBG are between ages 6 and 13. In FY 2009, nearly 554,000 school-age children received CCDBG-funded child care assistance in an average month, comprising approximately 34 percent of all children receiving CCDBG (see Figure 1).

The share of school-age children receiving CCDBG varies from state to state. Michigan serves the greatest share (44 percent) of children age 6 and older. School-age children make up the smallest share of children served in Arkansas (0 percent) and the District of Columbia (18 percent).

School-age children make up 35 percent or more of children served in CCDBG in 13 states: Mississippi (35 percent), Washington (35 percent), Wisconsin (35 percent), California (36 percent), Oregon (36 percent), South Carolina (36 percent), Utah (36 percent), Pennsylvania (39 percent), New York (39 percent), North Carolina (39 percent), Rhode Island (39 percent), Illinois (41 percent), and Michigan (44 percent, see Table 1).

More than half of school-age children in CCDBG are served in center-based care.

Fifty-six percent of school-age children receiving CCDBG are cared for in centers. A family home is the second most common setting for school-age children in CCDBG (see Figure 2).

The CCDBG school-age earmark funds a range of services. Federal CCDBG funding includes an earmark targeted for resource and referral and school-age care activities. In FY 2010, the school-age earmark in CCDBG was funded at nearly \$19 million, of which \$1 million was targeted for Child Care Aware, a national toll-free hotline and website to provide information to parents and child care providers.⁷

States use the school-age earmark to fund a range of activities including specialized training for school-age caregivers, planning for school-age care, technical assistance to school-age care programs and providers, supports for providers seeking accreditation, financial incentives for school-age care providers, and grants to improve the quality of school-age child care services.⁸

Funds earmarked for school-age care comprise a small portion of CCDBG spending. In FY 2009, the latest year data are available, states spent a total of \$12.4 billion in state and federal CCDBG funds—including funds transferred from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to CCDBG. This total includes funds that were appropriated and liquidated in FY 2009, as well as funds that were appropriated in prior years but liquidated in 2009.⁹

Total spending of funds earmarked for resource and referral and school-age care, including funds appropriated in prior fiscal years, was \$26.4 million, less than 1 percent of total federal and state CCDBG expenditures.

Figure 2. Settings in Which Children Were Served, 2009

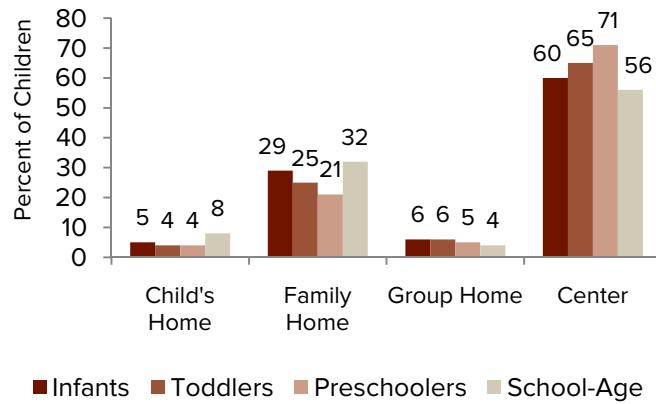


Table 1. Ages of Children Served in CCDBG by State, 2009

	Infants/Toddlers (Under Age 3)	Preschoolers (Ages 3-5)	School Age (Ages 6-13)
Alabama	32%	34%	34%
Alaska	32%	37%	31%
Arizona	30%	37%	33%
Arkansas	58%	42%	0%
California	20%	44%	36%
Colorado	33%	38%	29%
Connecticut	31%	38%	31%
Delaware	32%	35%	33%
District of Columbia	46%	35%	18%
Florida	32%	40%	27%
Georgia	36%	34%	30%
Hawaii	34%	40%	27%
Idaho	30%	37%	33%
Illinois	28%	31%	41%
Indiana	30%	38%	32%
Iowa	34%	34%	32%
Kansas	31%	36%	34%
Kentucky	34%	34%	31%
Louisiana	44%	33%	23%
Maine	22%	45%	33%
Maryland	32%	34%	34%
Massachusetts	28%	38%	33%
Michigan	26%	30%	44%
Minnesota	30%	37%	33%
Mississippi	32%	33%	35%
Missouri	36%	37%	27%
Montana	36%	39%	25%
Nebraska	35%	34%	31%
Nevada	32%	36%	32%
New Hampshire	30%	38%	32%
New Jersey	32%	34%	34%
New Mexico	34%	36%	29%
New York	26%	35%	39%
North Carolina	27%	34%	39%

North Dakota	40%	35%	25%
Ohio	34%	33%	33%
Oklahoma	36%	36%	28%
Oregon	30%	33%	36%
Pennsylvania	27%	35%	39%
Rhode Island	26%	35%	39%
South Carolina	26%	38%	36%
South Dakota	37%	38%	26%
Tennessee	35%	34%	31%
Texas	33%	35%	32%
Utah	29%	36%	36%
Vermont	29%	38%	33%
Virginia	35%	38%	28%
Washington	30%	35%	35%
West Virginia	30%	36%	34%
Wisconsin	31%	34%	35%
Wyoming	34%	39%	27%
U.S.	30%	36%	34%

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Youth, Office of Child Care, *Table 9: Child Care and Development Fund, Average Monthly Percentages of Children In Care By Age Group (FFY 2009)*, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/09acf800_preliminary/list.htm.

¹ Some states provide assistance for children between ages 13 and 19 who are physically and/or mentally incapable of self-care or under court supervision.

² The information in this fact sheet is limited to school-age children receiving CCDBG-funded child care assistance in federal fiscal year 2009. Participation data on children served through other sources, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds, are not available. Data, unless otherwise noted, comes from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Services, Office of Child Care, *FFY 2009 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary Estimates)*, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/09acf800_preliminary/list.htm. For information on children of all ages served in CCDBG, see *U.S. Child Care Assistance Profile 2009*, CLASP, 2011, <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/ccmap09us.pdf>.

³ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, *Child Care and Development Fund: Report of State and Territory Plans, FY 2009-FY 2010*, 2009, <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/files/resources/sp1011full-report.pdf>.

⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Child Care and Development Fund: Report of State and Territory Plans*.

⁵ Afterschool Investments, *National Profile*, <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/nationalprofile.html>.

⁶ For more on contracts see Hannah Matthews and Rachel Schumacher, *Ensuring Quality Care for Low-Income Babies: Contracting Directly with Providers to Expand and Improve Infant and Toddler Care*, CLASP, 2008, <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/0422.pdf>.

⁷ See <http://www.childcareaware.org/>.

⁸ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Child Care and Development Fund: Report of State and Territory Plans*.

⁹ CCDBG contains several funding streams, each with their own rules for liquidation. Funds appropriated for the school-age earmark must be obligated (or legally committed) in two years and liquidated in the subsequent year. For more information on child care spending, see *U.S. Child Care Assistance Profile 2009*, CLASP, 2011, <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/ccmap09us.pdf>.